January 2006

The Idaho National Laboratory (INL) began operations on February 1, 2005. The INL combines the strong research components of the former Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory and former Argonne National Laboratory-West. The new laboratory is being managed under a ten-year contract with Battelle Energy Alliance (BEA), led by Battelle Memorial Institute, and includes team members BWXT Services Inc., Washington Group International, the Electric Power Research Institute, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Under the INL management and operating contract, BEA is tasked to establish the INL as a premier world-class nuclear energy research center in ten years.

INL is a multi-program national laboratory conducting science and technology research across a wide range of disciplines. Its core missions are the development of advanced, next-generation fuel cycle and reactor technologies; promoting nuclear technology education; and applying its technical skills to enhance the nation's security. Under the oversight of the Office of Nuclear Energy, INL will lead an international research and development effort to create Generation IV nuclear systems. These next-generation technologies will feature enhanced safety, improved waste reduction, better economic performance, and, perhaps most importantly, improved physical security and proliferation resistance. Generation IV will make possible the production of large quantities of cost-effective hydrogen to support the development of a clean and efficient hydrogen economy in the United States, and reduce the Nation's dependence on imported fossil fuel.

Additionally, the INL is leading the development of advanced fuel cycles, space power systems, and national security programs that will further advance energy and national security. The laboratory is also establishing the Center for Advanced Energy Studies, a collaboration of the Department, the state of Idaho, the laboratory, and universities in Idaho and across the country. This center will bring academia into the life of the laboratory in a substantive way and provide students and professors from across the country access to the laboratory's unique capabilities.

The Idaho National Laboratory employs over 3,400 personnel located primarily at the Idaho Site and in the city of Idaho Falls, Idaho. In addition to its broad spectrum of nuclear energy and national security programs, INL provides essential site services to DOE and other governmental agencies and private sector companies doing business at the Idaho Site.

Key Expectations for FY 2006 – Planning Mission Accomplishment

- Provide the leadership role in the management of the Generation IV and Advanced Fuel Cycle Initiative programs.
- Continue to reduce costs and increase the laboratory's productivity while improving safety performance.
- Create Center for Advanced Energy Studies and Advanced Modeling and Simulation in support of core missions.
- Create long range plans for laboratory programs, facilities and personnel.
- Achieve the irradiation program objectives established by the Naval Reactors Program for the Advanced Test Reactor.

